GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:369
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON ARTIFICIAL RECHARGE OF GROUND WATER
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted an Advisory Council for popularising the concept of Artificial Recharge of Ground Water:

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the works undertaken by the Council; and

(c) the other steps taken to promote artificial recharge of ground water in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b) The Government has constituted an `Artificial Recharge of Ground Water Advisory Council` under the Chairmanship of Minister of Water Resources. The Advisory Council comprises of Members from Central Ministries/Departments, representatives of State Governments, Public Undertakings, Financial Institutions, representative of Industries and renowned Subject Experts/Farmers/NGOs. The Advisory Council has held meetings in July 2006 and September, 2007 to pursue it`s agenda.

(c) Steps taken to promote artificial recharge of ground water in the country include:-

(i) Organization of National Ground Water Congress.
(ii) Institution of Bhoomijal Samvardhan Puraskar and National Water Award for best practices in ground water augmentation.

(iii) Preparation and circulation of Manual on Artificial Recharge of ground water to the States/ Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific Artificial Recharge Schemes.

(iv) Preparation and circulation of `Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water`.

(v) Organization of mass awareness programmes and training courses on Water Management, Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge of Ground Water.

(vi) Implementation of scheme on `Artificial Recharge to ground water through Dug wells` in 1180 Over-exploited/Critical/Semi-Critical areas in 7 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh.

(vii) Implementation of 165 pilot recharge projects in various States under the Central Sector Scheme on `Study of recharge to ground water`.

(viii) Implementation of demonstrative artificial recharge projects.